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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BUDE/STRATTON

Conning

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



for the year 1961

Health Area Office,
Launceston,
Cornwall

WILLIAM PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health



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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BUDE/STRATTON

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R.J.WOOLACOTT

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY :

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

WILLIAM PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Also holds appointments of : Medical Officer of Health :
Stratton Rural District Council
Launceston Rural District Council
Launceston Borough Council
Camelford Rural District Council

Assistant County Medical Officer, Area No. 6 Cornwall County Council

School Medical Officer, Cornwall County Council

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

P.DURSTON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	4,294
Population	4,910
No. of separate dwellings occupied	1,752
Rateable value 1961	£79,200
Product of ld. rate	£323

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 estimated population</u>
<u>Live Births</u>				
Legitimate	54	31	23	12.21
Illegitimate	6	1	5	
<u>Stillbirths</u>	3	1	2	45.45 per 1,000 total births
<u>Deaths (all causes)</u>	85	44	41	17.31
<u>Deaths from Puerperal Causes :-</u>				
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis				N I L
Other Puerperal Causes				

Infant Mortality (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births)

	1	1	-	15.15
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	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	6	2	8
Measles (all ages)	-	-	-
Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	-	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)-	-	-	-

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BUDE/STRATTON.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1961.

As far as can be judged from vital statistics, the health of the District remained satisfactory. Deaths showed a decrease of five compared with the previous year, and again outnumbered births, which showed a decrease of twelve. The estimated mid-year population in 1961, a census year, showed a decrease of 320. Heart disease, vascular lesions of the nervous system, and cancer, in that order, were once again at the head of the list of causes of death. One infant death and three stillbirths were recorded.

The incidence of infectious disease was low. No cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis were notified. Poliomyelitis vaccination continued, with the addition of a fourth booster injection for children of primary school age.

In the sanitary circumstances of the Urban District, there is little new to report. The Council's consulting engineers had completed their investigations into the sewerage and sewage disposal arrangements in the district by the end of the year, but had not then presented their final report.

In the field of food hygiene, the return to popularity of the bulk loose type of ice-cream once more gave rise to problems in the form of unsatisfactory bacteriological reports on samples, especially at the beginning of the season. In all cases, except one, much advisory work in the technique of dispensing and the care of dispensers etc., led in time to a satisfactory situation. In the exception, no improvement was effected, and the Council ultimately cancelled the registration of the premises. The part-time and transitory nature of employment in this trade, and the brevity of the season, make it certain that the lessons will have to be taught, and learned again, each year.

I must express my thanks to Mr. Durston, the Council's Public Health Inspector, for the valuable assistance he has given in all aspects of our work and in the preparation of this report. The Council's other Departments have continued their willing co-operation. I am grateful to the General Practitioners of the District for their continued co-operation.

Once again, it is a pleasure to express my appreciation of the help and encouragement I have received from the Council and, in particular, from the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM PATERSON

Medical Officer of Health

Natural and Social Conditions

Area (in acres) 4,294. The Urban District of Bude/Stratton is partly a health and seaside resort and partly agricultural in character. It is bounded at its western extremity by the Atlantic Ocean, the coast-line in this particular part of north Cornwall running almost due north and south.

Whilst the hinterland is undulating and hilly in character, contour heights seldom rise above 500 feet and this no doubt is in part the explanation for the exceedingly moderate rainfall figures (average annual rainfall for 20 years 33.74"), which in view of exposure to the prevailing south westerly winds, might be expected to be considerably higher.

Population - The Registrar General has estimated the population for the mid-year 1961 to be 4,910 compared with 5,230 in the previous year. In 1961 there were 66 births and 85 deaths, 19 more deaths than births.

Deaths - The total number of deaths assigned to the District for the year was 85 compared with 90 in 1960. The crude death rate based on the mid-year population was 17.31 compared with 17.20 in the previous year. The following table has been compiled for comparison with previous years :

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Recorded Rate</u>
1957	79	32	47	15.13
1958	101	45	56	19.46
1959	85	36	49	16.28
1960	90	37	53	17.20
1961	85	44	41	17.31

In order to compare the mortality in the District with the mortality for England and Wales, it is necessary to make a correction to allow for the difference in age and sex distribution of the two populations. This is done by applying to the crude death rate of the District an "Area Comparability Factor" which has been estimated by the Registrar General as 0.71 for this District.

The Standardised Death Rate, therefore, is 12.29 which may be compared with that of 12.0 (provisional) for England and Wales.

Births - The number of live births assigned to this District was 60 compared with 72 in 1960. The rate per thousand of the population is 12.21. When the Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor for births (1.11) is applied to this figure, the Standardised Birth Rate of 13.55 for this District compared with 17.4 (provisional) for England and Wales.

Stillbirths - There were three stillbirths during 1961.

Illegitimate Births - There were six illegitimate births assigned to the District during the year, compared with two in 1960. Shown as a proportion of the total number of live births, this represents 9.09 per cent.

Maternal Mortality - No maternal deaths were recorded during the year.

Infant Mortality - There was one death of an infant in the first year of life. The cause of death was as follows :-

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause of death</u>
M	1 day	Prematurity

N.B. Vital Statistics. It is important that too much weight should not be attached to small variations in these rates from one year to another, particularly where relatively small populations are involved - attention should rather be paid to the trend of these rates over a period of years.

MORTALITY TABLE

Classified in accordance with 36 headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classifications of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1955.

<u>Cause of Death</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	..	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	-	-	..
3.	Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infection	-	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	-	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	1	4
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	-	-
13.	Malignant, neoplasm uterus	-	-	-
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	1	3
15.	Leukaemia, alcukaemia	-	-	-
16.	Diabetes	-	-	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	12	18
18.	Coronary disease, angina	7	5	12
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	-	-	-
20.	Other heart disease	5	10	15
21.	Other circulatory disease	3	3	6
22.	Influenza	-	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	2	3	5
24.	Bronchitis	1	-	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	4	-	4
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	-	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	3	8
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
34.	All other accidents	3	-	3
35.	Suicide	-	-	-
36.	Homicide and Operations of War	-	-	-
		44	41	85

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

General Medical Services

General medical services under Part IV of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are provided by medical practitioners resident in the district, and in adjoining districts, all of whom undertake maternity medical services.

County Council Services

- I Health Department. The County Council is the local health authority for the purposes of Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, and provides the following services in the district :-
- (a) Midwifery and Home Nursing. Nurse-midwives are provided to attend general nursing and midwifery cases in the home.
 - (b) Health Visiting. The nurse midwives act also as health visitors and with special training in the case of the mother and young child, are available to give advice on health matters in the home or at the clinic. They act also as school nurses.
 - (c) Child Welfare Centre. A fortnightly Child Welfare Clinic is held at the Castle, Bude.
 - (d) Dental Clinic. Priority dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children is available at the Dental Clinic held at the Castle, Bude.
 - (e) Vaccination and Immunisation. Facilities for vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough are provided at the Child Welfare Clinic or by the supply of materials to the family doctor. Regular sessions are held for poliomyelitis vaccination.
 - (f) Home Help Service. Home helps are employed to provide domestic help for households in certain circumstances, a charge being made for this service according to the means of the person concerned.
 - (g) Ambulance Service. A service of ambulances for the conveyance of sick, accident and emergency cases is provided. For sitting cases, utilicon sitting case vehicles are used. When appropriate, some such cases are carried by the Hospital Car Service, a voluntary organisation. Day-to-day administration of the service is carried out from Ambulance Control, Bodmin.

(h) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.

A full-time tuberculosis health visitor is provided for the care and after-care of tuberculous persons. District nurses are available to assist in the home treatment of such persons when required by the Chest Physician or family doctor. Certain special investigations are carried out in other types of illness by district health visitors, while health education is carried out by the County's medical and nursing staff.

- (j) Mental Health. The County Council has certain responsibilities in connection with the ascertainment of mental ill-health and mental deficiency, with the provision of statutory supervision, etc. for mental defectives living in the community, and with the provision of after-care following treatment for mental illness. The Mental Welfare Officer for the district works from the Health Area Office, Launceston.

II Education Department. As local Education Authority, the County Council is responsible for the School Health Service, which provides the following :-

Periodic Medical Inspection of pupils
Cleanliness Surveys of pupils
Dental Inspection and treatment of pupils
Ascertainment of handicapped pupils in need of special education.
Treatment Clinic at the Castle, Bude:
Dental Clinics every second Thursday
Child Guidance, by arrangement at Plymouth Child Guidance Clinic.

- III Welfare Department. This service is concerned with the welfare of the aged, and with that of various categories of handicapped persons. It is concerned also with the provision of temporary accommodation in certain circumstances for persons in urgent need thereof. The Welfare Officer for the District works from the Health Area Office, Launceston.

Hospital Services.

The South Western Regional Hospital Board is the hospital authority for the Area.

Stratton Cottage Hospital provides in-patient and out-patient facilities in the district. Patients are referred also to hospitals in Plymouth and elsewhere. Cases of infectious disease are admitted to the Scott Isolation Hospital, Plymouth, and tuberculosis patients to Didworthy or Tehidy Sanatoria. Mental hospital accommodation is provided by St. Lawrence's Hospital and Laninval House, Bodmin and Moorfields Hospital, Ivybridge, Devon.

An Orthopaedic Clinic is held weekly at the Castle, Bude and a Physiotherapy Clinic at Dawfield Hospital, Holsworthy. The Chest Clinic is held at Launceston Hospital. An Ophthalmic Clinic for school and pre-school children is held periodically at the Castle, Bude. A Specialist Ante-Natal Clinic is held at the Launceston Health Clinic each week.

Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratories at Exeter and Plymouth, to which specimens for bacteriological examination are submitted.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLIES. The District may be divided under three main headings for the purpose of water supplies, namely :-

- (a) Those parts of the District supplied by the Council's Water Undertaking.

The amount of water available for supply continues to be satisfactory, owing to the excellent storage capacity of the Tamar Lake Reservoir. Nothing has yet been done, however, of the major scheme drawn up in 1952, to overcome the restricted facilities for filtration, storage and distribution. Whilst it is true to say that the use of Leigh and Hillhead reservoirs, as booster supplies, during the periods of maximum draw-off, has helped considerably to stabilise pressures, the position remains unsatisfactory in the higher parts of the distribution area. In fact, the situation during the summer months in regard to Poughill caused concern to the Council, special discussions being instigated, as a result of which special meetings of the Public Health Committee were convened. At these meetings both long and short-term policies for overcoming the lack of pressure, and intermittent supply of water at the higher end of Poughill were discussed. As a result two decisions were reached :-

- (i) Short term policy - to obtain and instal a second electric booster at Stratton, in order that continuous boosting might be adopted during the summer months; one plant being in operation, and the other resting alternately. In this way it is hoped to maintain sufficient pressure to provide a continuous, if not entirely adequate supply, to those properties at that time experiencing a shortage. At the end of the year the new plant had been delivered and installed, and it only remained for the connections to be made. The system should therefore be capable of working in good time for the summer season.

- (ii) Long term policy - to implement stage three of the scheme drawn up by the Engineer in 1952, that is, to lay a new 4" main from Stamford Hill to Inch's Shop, and at that point instal a borehole well with submersible pump; and build a high level storage reservoir of 40,000 gallons at Inch's Shop. The Engineer received instructions to prepare details of the scheme for submission to the Ministry, approval for which has already been obtained in principle. It is to be hoped that it will be possible to complete the preliminaries and commence work on the scheme without undue delay, as the completion of the works will undoubtedly obviate fluctuating and inadequate supplies in this area.

The capacity of the Tamar Lake to supply the Area was not severely tested during the year. Whilst rainfall was only moderate, it was evenly distributed during the months of highest demand, and although the level of the Lake fell below the level of the overflow weir, at no time was there any occasion for anxiety. The fall in the level made it possible to continue the repairs to the overflow weir which were begun in 1960, and these were satisfactorily completed.

Rainfall figures for June, July and August, 1961 were respectively 0.96", 1.46" and 3.02", as compared with 1.32", 4.66" and 3.70" for June, July and August, 1960.

- (b) Those parts of the adjoining Rural District supplied by the Council's Water Undertaking.

Although most of the adjoining Rural District is now supplied with water by the North Devon Water Board, the Council continues to maintain a supply to the parish of Marhamchurch and parts of Poundstock parish. The supply to the latter is augmented by bore-hole wells, operated by the private Company directly responsible, but a considerable amount is still derived from the Urban Council's Water Undertaking. It is understood that an application was made for these parts to be taken over and included in the distribution area of the North Devon Water Board; and if this were done the supply to the Urban District would undoubtedly be enhanced considerably. But at the time of writing no progress has been made with this proposal.

- (c) Those parts of the Urban District not supplied by the Council's Water Undertaking.

It is not an economic proposition to supply the more scattered and isolated properties in the District with water. These derive their supply in a few cases from bore-hole wells, which provide adequate and bacteriologically pure water, but the majority of private supplies are from shallow wells, or even surface springs, which are very uncertain, both in quantity and purity. Modern public health standards demand a pure supply of water for all members of the community. This is borne out by Government policy, and satisfaction cannot be felt whilst conditions such as those mentioned above exist in the Urban District. One particular area about which concern must be felt is the hamlet of Bush, where conditions are, for the most part, very unsatisfactory. Whilst the Inch's Shop scheme outlined above does not provide for a supply of water to Bush, it would be a comparatively simple matter, once this scheme is implemented, to provide a main supply to this area. It is to be hoped that the Council will bear this fact in mind, and come to a decision concerning it in the foreseeable future.

A table of the results of bacteriological analyses of the water is appended below. Once again these results have been satisfactory in nearly all cases.

Summary of bacteriological reports.

Filterbeds, Vealand

(Filtered but unchlorinated)

Satisfactory
(No organisms)

Unsatisfactory

Tap Water Samples (Filtered and chlorinated)

	<u>Class I</u>	<u>Class II</u>	<u>Class III</u>	<u>Class IV</u>
Bude	5	Nil	Nil	I
Stratton	6	Nil	Nil	Nil
Poughill	4	Nil	1	Nil

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

There are no changes to report in the sewerage and sewage disposal arrangements in the Urban District during the year. The consulting engineers, whose employment by the Council was mentioned in the report for 1960, had completed their investigations by the end of the year, but their final report had not then been received.

Works which were carried out at the Stratton Disposal Works during the year resulted in an improvement of the effluent. What has been done cannot be regarded as other than in the nature of a stop-gap, and does not provide a permanent solution of the difficulties experienced here. The Council's consulting engineers, however, have included these works in their survey.

Regarding the Poundfield/Stamford Hill area, the scheme for the sewerage of this group of properties had to be deleted from the annual estimates. Although little further development has taken place, the omission must necessarily be regretted. The area has now become much more urban in character, and the use of numerous private cess-pits and septic tanks in such an environment cannot be held to be satisfactory. During the year the proposed development of a part of the area on the south-western extremity as a small estate of some seven bungalows was approved. No development other than roads and services had occurred by the end of the year, and fortunately it was found possible to connect the drainage of this estate into the main sewer near the access lane to the County Secondary School.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Until recently, the Urban District had for some time enjoyed relative immunity from rodent infestation, due to the attentions of a skilled and conscientious full-time Operator. As mentioned in the report for 1960, the Council decided, for reasons of economy, to give him additional duties for the summer of that year, involving a considerable neglect of work in his own sphere for approximately three months. After the summer season, the economy was maintained by the reduction of the Operator's working week from five to four days. The rapidity with which the rodent population mature and breed is such that these decisions led to a considerable deterioration in the former satisfactory position, and many large, and in some cases major, infestations occurred for the first time for many years.

Farms and business premises could not receive the customary regular survey visits, which are at least as important as treatments in checking infestations, and often infestations were well established before a treatment was begun. This in turn affected the position with regard to domestic properties. It must be repeated that the value of regular surveys in rodent control cannot be over-emphasised; this is a point which has been repeatedly stressed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and which has been amply borne out in practice. Quite apart from the public health aspect, it is very doubtful if the economy effected was as great as was intended. Large infestations necessitated the use of considerably more materials, and involved more travelling by the Operator. The Public Health Committee were made aware, towards the end of the year, of the unsatisfactory position, and at the December meeting it was resolved, after discussion, that the Operator should revert, at least temporarily, to a five day week.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

At the beginning of the season, conditional planning permission had been received, and public health licences granted, in respect of six sites. These licences referred to :-

- (a) A small holiday site for 4 caravans at Bush.
- (b) A holiday site for 30 caravans at Lynstone Farm.
(New licence)
- (c) A holiday site for 75 caravans and tents at Lynstone Farm. (Based on existing licence)
- (d) A residential site for 15 caravans at Maer Farm
(Existing licence)
- (e) A holiday site for 29 caravans at Maer Farm.
(Existing licence)
- (f) A holiday site for 185 caravans at Grenville Gate.
(Existing licence)

Of these sites, all but the first are provided with flush sanitation and main water supply. The first, being a very small site, only just coming within the purview of the Act, in a comparatively isolated area, the existing chemical closets were considered sufficient. Of the remainder, all but one already complied with the major provisions of the Ministry's Model Standards. The remaining one was provided with flush sanitation, but the sewage was received into a cess-pit, and the numbers of toilets were inadequate for the size of the site. During the year proposals were submitted for additional toilet accommodation for this site, with connection to the main sewer. Here a technical difficulty arose regarding the question of levels, and the possibility of connection to the main sewer. At the time of writing this report the proposals had not been put in hand, but it is hoped that they will be completed before the beginning of another holiday season. The large site continued to operate on a limited scale, but the preliminaries are now in hand, and it is hoped that the work will be completed early in the new year.

The Operators of licensed sites are extremely co-operative and standards of cleanliness have remained high. Refuse is collected by the Council's refuse lorry, at the times of collection normal to the respective areas of the sites. In addition the sites have facilities for burning combustible refuse.

Owing to the comparatively wet summer the problem of casual campers remained small, and very few nuisances arose.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Cornwall County Council control most of the roads in the District, but the work of street cleansing is carried out mainly by the staff of the Urban District Council.

The method of disposal by controlled tipping has continued, and the present tip at Tiscott Wood appears to have ample capacity for some time to come. The use of partial incineration has again been found useful in the reduction of combustible refuse. The incinerator is sited on the Council's property at the Wharf, Bude.

The existing refuse collection vehicle has now completed 10 years service, and early in the year consideration was given to securing a replacement vehicle. It was considered that the side loading facilities of the present vehicle were unsatisfactory, due to the escape of dust and smells, when the sliding lids were opened, and the bins being emptied into the open vehicle. Demonstrations were arranged, and an order eventually placed for a new vehicle. This vehicle is a Shelvoke & Drewry "TW" type, 16/18 cu.yd. fore and aft tipper, powered by a Perkins Six 305 deisel engine, and incorporating a S and D patented powerpress, and air operated hygienic loading shutters. Not only will the increased capacity of the vehicle provide more efficient collection, with fewer journeys between the collection area and the refuse tip, but the patent loading shutters will secure dustless and hygienic loading. This is a considerable advance on previous methods, which were open to serious criticism, particularly during the summer months. Delivery of the new vehicle was effected just after the year ended, and it was intended to commence operation at an early date.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

Section 47 - No action

Section 50 - No action

HOUSING

During the year no Council houses were erected. This means that no major schemes of slum clearance were carried out, although individual unfit houses were dealt with, and tenants rehoused, as and when alternative accommodation became available.

The picture with regard to private building during the year was that more houses were completed, but fewer were in hand at the end of the year. The respective figures were :-

	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>
Houses completed during year	16	9
Houses in course of erection		
at end of year	4	12

During the year the Town Development Map was due for review, and the Council considered recommendations from the Engineer and Surveyor, for the inclusion of additional portions of land within the Development Area. As a result of these deliberations, recommendations were forwarded to the County Planning Authority for the inclusion of a further 43.5 acres, to be scheduled for residential development. The areas recommended included sites at Efford/Lynstone Road; rear of Kings Hill; extensions to Killerton and Valley Roads; Stratton - Hospital Road; Flexbury/Hollabury; Coast View and Wall Plat, Poughill. In considering these proposals, the County Planning Authority considerably reduced their extent, and left, for the most part, only areas of considerable acreage. It is felt that small local building firms are not likely to undertake the development of relatively large sites which would involve them in considerable capital expenditure, with considerable delay before receiving any return for their outlay. It would therefore appear that if development on any scale is to continue, it will be incumbent on the Council to purchase and develop the sites, and sell plots to builders as required.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food Premises and Clean Food.

The number and types of premises in the District are :-

Restaurants and hotel kitchens.....	45
Bakers and confectioners.....	5
Butchers.....	6
Dairies.....	5
Ice-cream dealers.....	25
Boarding houses.....	55
Greengrocers.....	10
Grocers.....	12
School canteens.....	3
No. of inspections of registered food premises.....	173
No. of inspections of other food premises.....	249

Food Hygiene Regulations.

Inspections and advisory visits to food premises form an important part of the work of the Department, in an area whose main industry is the tourist industry. Whilst the willing co-operation of nearly all management staffs has been secured, in producing and maintaining hygienic standards, the seasonal nature of the trade presents very real difficulties. In spite of these, however, with very few exceptions, good standards have been maintained, and verbal and informal comment have been sufficient. It is unfortunate that the transient nature of the employment of catering staffs makes any effort at health education extremely difficult. Due to the pressure of business during the holiday season, any lectures or film shows would have to be arranged for the winter months. At that time of the year, however, those affected are engaged in other work, or have left the District, and are therefore not available or have lost interest.

Meat Inspection.

The slaughterhouse adjacent to the Goods Sidings at Bude Railway Station, leased and operated by the Bude Wholesale Meat Company, remains the only licensed slaughterhouse in the District, which fact greatly facilitates the efficient performance of meat inspection and general supervision. In 1960, the proposals to extend and provide proper facilities to the slaughterhouse were put in hand, and by the "Appointed Day" under the Slaughterhouses (Appointed Day) Order, namely 1st April, 1961, were completed in respect of structural alterations, with the exception of isolation lairage and of other matters with the exception of drinking troughs and feeding racks in the lairage. The outstanding items were completed, and the final inspection of the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food made, before the end of the year.

The slaughterhouse now comprises a slaughterhall 34 ft x 19 ft., with extension 22' 6" x 10' 6" for pig slaughter, containing a stunning pen for cattle, separate entrance for pigs and sheep, and a hog-master with electric hoist and running gear for pigs; a cooling room 35' 9" x 19' 6" with new overhead running gear and offal rails. In addition, there have been provided an office, detained meat and condemned meat rooms, gut room, hide room, staff room and additional toilets. All blood is drained to a blood pit and removed by a contractor every 7 to 10 days for disposal elsewhere. The remainder of the drainage and floor washings pass through a plant designed by a firm of consulting engineers, and the final effluent is pumped to the main sewer. Before the end of the year additional facilities had been provided. These were :-

(a) A gut cleaning machine for treatment of small intestines. An offensive trade licence had been applied for and granted in respect of this machine, and it is hoped that it will obviate the nuisance caused by the old method of hand cleaning, particularly during the warmer months of the year.

(b) A refrigeration room some 10' x 18' added on the west side of the hanging and cooling room. The plant installed in this room is such that it can be used either for normal refrigeration, or for deep freeze storage. It will, therefore, not only provide valuable additional storage space, which was required, but will also be capable of being used to treat any cases of cysticercosis which are found.

As the structural alterations were completed, and additions made to the number of staff, the throughput increased progressively through the year, the highest monthly figure being 4,461 animals slaughtered in October. The increase was relatively very much higher for cattle and pigs, which animals require more careful and detailed inspection than sheep; consequently the amount of time spent on meat inspection was necessarily much more, and involved an increased proportion of the Public Health Inspector's working day, and much work outside normal working hours, particularly at weekends. Only because of this, has complete inspection been maintained. The figures for the year do not show the full potential, as the first half of the year was restricted due to the structural alterations, etc. The total throughput for the year was :-

Cattle other than cows.....	512
Cows.....	348
Calves.....	43
Sheep and lambs.....	27,686
Pigs.....	4,194

Total	<u>32,783</u>
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From Table V it will be seen that no tuberculosis was discovered in cattle other than cows, and a reduction in the incidence of the disease in cows, in spite of the increased numbers. This situation is satisfactory, and indicates the effectiveness of the measures adopted to eradicate bovine tuberculosis. In fact, only one case of tuberculosis in cows was discovered, and this was in a known reactor. The position with regard to the disease in pigs was not so satisfactory, an increase in the incidence being recorded, but this is doubtless partly explained by the considerably increased throughput of pigs. Total condemnation was necessary only in the case of one pig.

The number of cows totally condemned for diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis remained rather high; this is explained by the fact that old cows are now accepted for the boning trade, and many are in a poor condition when admitted. The apparent rise in the incidence of disease in calves is somewhat artificial, owing to the very small numbers being slaughtered. The two calves totally condemned were casualty admissions. One was condemned for umbilical pyaemia, and the other was moribund on admission. In general, sheep were very healthy, and, surprisingly, the comparatively wet summer appeared to have relatively little adverse effect. Although a number were totally condemned for generalised oedema and emaciation, associated with cirrhotic livers, the percentage of the total was lower than might have been expected.

The incidence of cysticercus bovis, both in cows and other cattle, was relatively high. This is somewhat surprising at a time when nationally the incidence appears to be falling, and no logical explanation can be offered.

Disposal of condemned meat and other foods.

Condemned meat, both from the slaughterhouse and butchers' shops, is removed by a contractor, who sterilises and processes it, and converts it into animal feeding stuffs.

Tinned and similar goods are taken to the Council's refuse tip and buried.

Ice-cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1959.

There are 40 ice-cream dealers in the District whose premises are registered. Of these 32 retail the product, and 8 do not at the moment. There are no manufacturer-retailers in the District, all the ice-cream on retail sale being the products of the multiple manufacturers. On sampling, the wrapped variety has maintained a high standard throughout, but trouble has again been experienced with the bulk loose type. At the beginning of the season, many samples of this type of the product produced unsatisfactory results, necessitating inspection and advisory visits, and repetition of sampling. Ultimately, completely satisfactory results were obtained, once a satisfactory routine of handling and sterilisation of utensils had been established. Unfortunately, one exception occurred. In this instance, the premises were unsatisfactory, and consistently bad results of samples were recorded. The matter was reported to the Public Health Committee, action was taken under Section 19 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the registration of the premises cancelled.

The number of samples taken during the season was again high, and, in view of the fact that it was necessary to concentrate on the less satisfactory traders in general, and the one mentioned above in particular, the table appended below can be regarded as reasonably satisfactory.

Summary of results of samples - 1961

Provisional methylene blue test

Result in Grade I	-	71.42%
II	-	17.14%
III	-	5.72%
IV	-	5.72%

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 - 1959.

Classified list of factories as at 31st December, 1961.

<u>Nature of employment</u>	<u>Power</u>	<u>Non-power.</u>
1. Food manufacture	4	-
2. Wearing apparel		
(a) Boots and shoes	2	1
(b) Outfitting	1	-
3. Carpentry, joinery and saw mills	6	2
4. Garages, repair shops and engineers	12	-
5. Laundries	-	-
6. Monumental masons	1	-
7. Gas works	1	-
8. Plumbers	-	2
9. Dairies	-	-
10. Photography	1	2
11. Printing works	1	-
12. Electrical engineers	1	2
13. Cabinet makers and upholsterers	-	2

Prescribed Particulars of the Factories Act, 1937, are attached as an appendix to this report in accordance with Circular 1/60 of the Ministry of Health.

Summary of Public Health Inspector's Inspections, etc.

This is shown in Table IV, page 23

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER
DISEASES

The infectious diseases which are statutorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health are the following :- Smallpox, Cholera, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, Scarlet Fever, Typhus Fever, Typhoid Fever, Paratyphoid Fever, Relapsing fever, Plague, Poliomyelitis, Tuberculosis, Malaria, Dysentery, Puerperal Pyrexia, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Acute primary pneumonia, Acute influenzal pneumonia, Whooping cough, Measles, Acute encephalitis, Meningococcal infection, Anthrax and Food Poisoning.

In cases of infectious disease, preliminary investigations are carried out by the Public Health Inspector, when advice is given regarding current disinfection, segregation of contacts, etc. Terminal disinfection, when necessary, is carried out under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

The monthly incidence of infectious disease is shown in Table III.

Smallpox - No case was notified during the year, in the course of which 24 primary vaccinations and 18 re-vaccinations were carried out.

Diphtheria - No case was notified during the year, in which 53 children received a complete course of primary immunisation against the disease, the triple antigen against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus being used in almost all instances.

Measles - 16 cases of this infection were notified during the year, nine of these occurring in January and February. It will be recalled that 99 cases had occurred in November and December, 1960.

Whooping Cough - Two cases were notified in 1961.

Poliomyelitis - No cases of this disease were notified during the year.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis continued, 150 persons receiving a course of two injections. Since the beginning of the scheme in 1956, a total of 1380 persons in the district had received the primary course of vaccination and, of these, 1137 had also had their third injection.

During the year, a fourth booster injection was introduced for children in the age group 5 - 12 years. The majority of these children had received this injection at school before the beginning of the summer holidays. A shortage of vaccine which occurred later in the year led to a temporary discontinuation of these fourth injections, the available vaccine being reserved for the completion of courses of vaccination already started.

Food Poisoning - No cases were notified during 1961.

Tuberculosis

	<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>	
	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non-Pul.</u>	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non-Pul.</u>
Cases on Register 31.12.60	21	-	9	-
No. of cases notified during the year	1	1	-	-
Cases restored	1	-	-	-
Inward Transfers	1	-	-	-
Cases removed	6	-	1	-
<hr/>				
Total on Register 31.12.61	18	1	8	-
<hr/>				

B.C.G. Vaccination continues to be offered to all susceptible contacts of known cases, most of whom avail themselves of this protection.

The scheme for B.C.G. Vaccination of susceptible school leavers was continued by the County Council during the year, again with a good response.

OTHER DISEASESCancer of the Lung.

During 1961, out of a total of 8 deaths from all forms of cancer, the deaths of three males and one female were due to cancer of the lung. This brings the total of deaths from this cause in the district from 1949 to 19 male and 7 female deaths. During the same period, there have been 75 male and 80 female deaths from all forms of cancer.

The recent report of the Royal College of Physicians on smoking and lung cancer has amply confirmed the previous findings on the subject. The publicity given to this report on its publication produced a considerable impact, and there can now be few members of the adult public who can be ignorant of the connection between smoking and cancer of the lung.

TABLE I

TUBERCULOSIS

Age and Sex Distribution of Cases and Deaths - 1961.

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Pul.</u>		<u>Other</u>		<u>Pul.</u>		<u>Other</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE II

VITAL STATISTICS

Summary for Previous Years

Year	Population (estimated)	<u>Births</u>		<u>Deaths</u>			
		Number	Crude Rate	<u>Under 1 year</u>		<u>All ages</u>	
				Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1957	5,220	44	8.43	2	45.45	79	15.13
1958	5,190	54	10.40	-	-	101	19.46
1959	5,220	63	12.07	-	-	85	16.28
1960	5,230	72	13.76	2	27.77	90	17.20
1961	4,910	66	13.44	1	15.15	85	17.31

TABLE III

Monthly Incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than
Tuberculosis)

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Measles	5	4	-	1	-	-	5	-	-	1	-	-	16
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	5	4	-	2	-	-	7	-	-	1	-	-	19

TABLE IV

Summary of Public Health Inspector's inspections.

Description of premises	No. of visits	No. of defects found	No. of defects remedied
Bakehouses	15	7	7
Dairies	6	1	1
Food preparation premises	422	25	25
Factories	53	7	7
Housing	129	18	18
Butchers	283	9	9
Shops	15	-	-
Water supplies	11	2	2
Verminous premises	-	-	-
Pests destruction	95	-	-

Nuisances and defects remedied during the year

Overcrowding	-	Refuse receptacles	43
Keeping of animals	21	Camping sites	5
Sanitary accommodation		Yard paving	-
(a) insufficient	5	Dampness	16
(b) defective	12	Roofs and R.W.pipes	4
Drainage		Floors	9
(a) reconstructed	-	Walls and ceilings	11
(b) repaired	8	Windows and ventilation	-
(c) cleansed	21	Water supplies	2
Cesspools			
(a) abolished	-		
(b) repaired	3		

Total visits of all kinds made by the Public Health
Inspector during the year 1988

TABLE V

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excl. cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. killed	512	348	43	27,686	4,194	Nil
No. inspected	512	348	43	27,686	4,194	Nil
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	5	2	46	2	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	29	59	Nil	50	3	Nil
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis	5.66%	18.39%	4.65%	0.35%	0.12%	0.0%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	58	Nil
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.0%	0.29%	0.0%	0.0%	1.41%	Nil
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	6	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

APPENDIX

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
Factories Act, 1937.

Part 1 of the Act

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	11	22	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	26	23	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' Premises)	4	8	-	-
Total	41	53	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on 2,3 or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as 2,3 or more "cases")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (Section 1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (Section 2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (Section 3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (Section 4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (Section 6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	3	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to outwork)	1	2	-	1	-
Total	5	7	-	2	-

PART VIII of the Act

Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

N I L